



February 2017

Correlates of Human Papilloma Virus Vaccine Acceptance among College Women in East Tennessee

Tosin Ariyo
ariyoo@mail.etsu.edu

Katie Baker
East Tennessee State University, bakermk@etsu.edu

Ruby Yadav
East Tennessee State University, yadavr@etsu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <http://ejournal.tnmed.org/home>

 Part of the [Medicine and Health Sciences Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Ariyo, Tosin; Baker, Katie; and Yadav, Ruby (2017) "Correlates of Human Papilloma Virus Vaccine Acceptance among College Women in East Tennessee," *Tennessee Medicine E-Journal*: Vol. 2 : Iss. 3 , Article 8.
Available at: <http://ejournal.tnmed.org/home/vol2/iss3/8>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by Tennessee Medicine e-Journal. It has been accepted for inclusion in Tennessee Medicine E-Journal by an authorized editor of Tennessee Medicine e-Journal.

Correlates of Human Papilloma Virus Vaccine Acceptance among College Women in East Tennessee

Tosin Ariyo, MPH, Katie Baker, DrPH, MPH, Ruby Yadav, MPH, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN

BACKGROUND

Human papilloma virus (HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted infection in the U.S.; most people will be infected during their lifetime. The most common HPV-related disease is cervical cancer with an estimated incidence of 12,000 cases annually, a third of which lead to death. Cervical cancer disparately affects women of ethnic minority groups and geographically isolated regions, such as Appalachia. Many cases of HPV and cervical cancer can be prevented through vaccination; however, vaccination rates for females in Tennessee are below the national average.

OBJECTIVES

The study was designed to assess the correlates of HPV vaccine uptake among a sample of college-aged women in East Tennessee.

METHODS

We surveyed female students between the ages of 18-22 years, from February to May 2016 and conducted descriptive and logistic regression analyses to test for associations.

RESULTS

Analyses showed that 61% of the women [n=279, mean age = 19 years] had received the HPV vaccine [at mean age= 15 years], over one-third of whom did so after their first sexual intercourse. Fear of vaccine side effects was negatively correlated with vaccine uptake. Awareness of HPV was associated with vaccine receipt ($p<0.01$), and participants who reported discussing cervical cancer prevention with their mothers were more likely to have heard about HPV ($p<0.05$).

CONCLUSION

These findings indicate that majority of girls in East Tennessee may not be protected from HPV by their first sexual intercourse, and suggest that efforts to increase vaccine uptake should educate mothers about their daughters' susceptibility to the virus.